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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
TOPIC	Dabern Firing Range		
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	
DATE OF CONTENT			25X1
DATE OBTAINED		PREPARED	27 May 1955
REFERENCES			
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS			
This is UNEVALUATED Information			

The following observations were made at Dabern firing range between 17 March and 23 April 1955:

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17 to 24 March. No air activity was observed.

25 March to 2 April. Little air activity was observed.

7 April. Between 1135 and 1635, approach flights were continually made. A total of 176 approaches were conducted by MiG-15s. Three MiG-15s dived from an altitude of about 2,500 meters at an angle of about 65 degrees and pulled out of dive at about 150 meters. The dive lasted 21 to 22 seconds. All other MiG-15s dived from an altitude of about 1,200 meters at an angle of about 40 degrees down to 80 meters. These dives lasted 10 to 11 seconds. The aircraft reached their previous altitude within 15 seconds. Most of the aircraft gave 4 bursts of fire, each burst of 3 rounds, before pulling out of dive. The outlines of four aircraft were marked as targets on the former Dabern airfield.

8 to 18 April. No air activity was observed although there was intermittently clear weather.

19 April. Between 1135 and 1800, 302 approach flights were made over the firing range. All approaches, except for one, were made from an altitude of about 1,200 meters at an angle of about 40 degrees. All aircraft came from the direction of Finsterwalde, approached the target from west to east, made one curve to the north (never to the south) and subsequently made another approach or departed toward Finsterwalde. Four bursts of fire, each of 3 rounds, were usually made in rapid succession. When the exercise was completed, a radio truck [] with a 7-meter rod antenna and truck [] occupied by 1 officer and 7 soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets moved toward Finsterwalde.

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20 April. From 0835 to 1700, 78 approach flights were made without interruptions.

21 and 22 April. There was intensive air activity during favorable weather.

23 April. Between 0845 and 1635, practice flights were continually made by 4 MiG-15s. There was a 10/10 overcast and visibility of 5 km.


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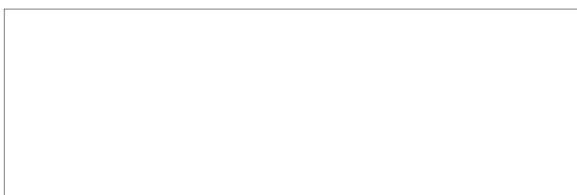


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 Comment. The practice flights over Dabern firing range were made by aircraft of the ground attack regiments in Brandis and Finsterwalde which have been re-equipped with MiG-15s.

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